



IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

Virgin Islands National Park  
Virgin Islands Coral Reef National Monument  
1300 Cruz Bay Creek  
St. John, Virgin Islands 00830



## Exhibit A COMMERCIAL HIKING OUTFITTER GUIDE OPERATING CONDITIONS Commercial Use Authorization 2016

The Virgin Islands National Park (VINP) was established to protect and preserve the scenic and natural environment and cultural heritage for future generations to enjoy. We are all privileged to live and work in this beautiful environment. Our livelihood depends on keeping these islands and surrounding waters naturally healthy and beautiful for generations to come. Given this charge, we thank you for complying with the following operating conditions. Please share applicable regulations with your guests.

1. **Compliance:** Permittee, employees, and visitors must comply with regulations for the protection and management of the natural, historic and physical resources of the Virgin Islands National Park as contained in the Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the Superintendent's Compendium, and U.S. Virgin Islands Territorial regulations, and all applicable U.S. Coast Guard regulations. These documents are available at the Superintendent's office or at the park's website at: [www.nps.gov/viis](http://www.nps.gov/viis).
2. **Insurance:** The permittee must carry insurance against public liability, employee liability, and other hazards. Minimum amounts of coverage will be established in accordance the NPS-48, Concessions Guidelines, and may vary depending upon the type of activities occurring within the Park.
3. **Reporting Incidents:** All incidents that result in damage to natural resources, property or personal injury or death of any person must be reported to the Chief Ranger (340-776-6201 ext.254) or Law Enforcement Rangers (1-866-995-8467) immediately. Filing this report does not satisfy applicable Territorial accident reporting requirements
4. **Specific Conditions:**
  - a. Permittee and employees shall attend at least two National Park Service-led interpretive hikes prior to leading tours within the National Park.
  - b. Permittee and employees shall attend National Park service sponsored interpretive skills training and/or orientation programs that are made available at the National Park.
  - c. Permittee will provide for National Park Service approval a written set of key themes or messages to be included in presentations and written materials.
  - d. All advertising materials relative to the Park will be submitted to the Park's Concessions Office for review and approval prior to use or publication
  - e. At least one staff member on every outing shall be certified in CPR & First Aid skills and techniques.
  - f. Permittee will provide for National Park Service approval a written set of procedures to be used in responding to emergency situations.
  - g. Permittee will not exceed a maximum of 30 persons per hike unless otherwise stated in the permit. If total group size is larger than 30, then a 15 minute interval is required between groups at the start of the trail head.



- h. Permittee will maintain the identified trails to the National Park services standards. A copy of trail maintenance standards will be provided to the permittee.
- i. Permittee, employee and participant vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas.
- j. Visitors will not be permitted to consume alcoholic beverages on guided outings.
- k. Permittee and visitors will comply with Virgin Islands anti-nudity laws.
- l. If swimming is an added component to the hike, one staff person certified in life guard procedures must be available to perform rescue swimming in the water and on the beach. Certified staff shall be available to monitor hikers at all times when on the beach.
- m. All hiking routes and deviations to hiking routes must be submitted to the Superintendent prior to implementation.
- n. All trash derived as a result of the hike must be packed out with the hikers utilizing the Leave No Trace policy.
- o. Hiking groups to Cinnamon Bay Campground are only allowed in the public areas of the campground.

**5. Prohibited Activities** (See Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations for additional regulations):

- a. Sale or use of balloons.
- b. Glass bottles or containers, pets on Park beaches.
- c. Dumping trash, garbage, refuse and the discharge of sewage of any kind.
- d. Loud recorded or live music as described in 36 CFR 2.12.
- e. Disturbing or removing historic structures or their contents.
- f. Feeding, touching, teasing, frightening, chasing or intentionally disturbing wildlife, including fish and sea turtles.
- g. Damaging, breaking, or taking of any marine or terrestrial, flora or fauna except for allowable fruits and berries.
- h. Smoking on park beaches, from the water's edge to 50 feet landward.

**6. Monthly Reporting:** Permittee will provide a monthly report indicating the date, number of visitors guided, and trails used, for the preceding month of operation. Reports must be received no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the following month. Send reports to Concessions Office, Virgin Islands National Park, 1300 Cruz Bay Creek, VI 00830 or e-mail to [paul\\_p\\_jones@nps.gov](mailto:paul_p_jones@nps.gov) or fax to 340-714-0545.

These Operating Conditions are hereby attached to and made a part of the Commercial Use Authorization for commercial activities in the Virgin Islands National Park. The Superintendent may amend these conditions during the operating year. Failure to comply with National Park Service regulations, policies, and conditions of this permit shall constitute cause for immediate suspension and/or revocation of the commercial use authorization.

I have read, understand and intend to comply with these conditions for operation of my commercial Hiking activity in the Virgin Islands National Park.

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Signature of Permittee

Date